से ले नहीं सकते हैं। लेकिन 400 करोड़ रुपये का बोझा दिल्लीवासियों पर कंज्यूमर्स पर नहीं आना चाहिए, यह मेरी प्रार्थना है। थैंक यू।

Brutal Lathi-charge on demonstrators of Samajwadi Party in Kanpur

श्री राम गोपाल यादव (उत्तर प्रदेश): मेडम, पिछली 9 अगस्त से 14 अगस्त तक उत्तर प्रदेश में समाजवादी पार्टी के आह्वान पर जेल भरो आंदोलन चलाया गया। 14 अगस्त को कानपुर में समाजवादी युवजन सभा के अध्यक्ष अनन्त मिश्रा के नेतृत्व में हजारों लोग जब बड़े चौराहे पर एकत्रित हो रहे थे तो उन शांतिपूर्ण तरीके से एकत्रित होने वाले प्रदर्शनकारियों पर पुलिस ने अकारण और बिना किसी चेतावनी के लाठीचार्ज किया। उस लाठीचार्ज में 70 से ज्यादा लोग घायल हुए जिसमें एक दर्जन से ज्यादा महिलाएं थीं। जिन्होंने पुरुष प्रदर्शनकारियों को बचाने के लिए जब प्रयास किया तो वे भी पुलिस की लाठियों की शिकार हुईं। मैं उस दिन एक सैमिनार में पार्टीसिपेट करने के लिए कानपुर गया हुआ था। जब मुझे पता चला तो मैं कानपुर कैंट पुलिस स्टेशन गया। जहां बड़े पैमाने पर घायल प्रदर्शनकारी पड़े हुए थे और उनको अस्पताल तक नहीं ले जाया जा सका। मैं उनको अस्पताल ले गया और इसके बाद जिलाधिकारी कानपुर से भी मिला। उन्होंने जांच का आश्वासन भी दिया। सब से उल्लेखनीय बात यह है कि कानपुर के सिटी मजिस्ट्रेट ने यह बयान दिया कि मैंने लाठीचार्ज का कोई आदेश नहीं दिया था। जब मजिस्ट्रेट ने लाठीचार्ज का आदेश नहीं दिया और लगभग 70 लोग कानपुर के 2 बड़े अस्पतालों में घायल होकर भर्ती हुए, जिनमें कई गंभीर रूप से घायल थे तो स्वाभाविक रूप से यह प्रश्न उठता है कि जो बल प्रयोग किया गया, उसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी। वह गैर-कानूनी था।

मैं आपके माध्यम से इस सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा और यह आग्रह करूंगा कि कानपुर में समाजवादी युवजन सभा के नेतृत्व में किए गए इस आंदोलन पर हुए लाठीचार्ज की जांच कराई जाए और दोषी लोगों को दंडित करने की व्यवस्था की जाए ताकि शांतिमय तरीके से जो नागरिकों का सम्मेलन करने का मौलिक अधिकार है, उस पर अकारण अंकुश लगाने की कोशिश पुलिस न करे। धन्यवाद।

Reported beating up of Indian Workers by Police in Kuwait

SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairman, I would like to apprise this august House about the assault by policemen in Kuwait. Indian workers in Kuwait have been assaulted very recently and I quote:

> "The Indian Embassy in Kuwait has protested against the police beating up 60 Indian workers, whose only offence was to resist some extremely illegal and unjust demands from their employer at the end of their contract. Unless India handles such cases firmly, these incidents will recur, especially in Kuwait.
>
> They have been fisted in kidneys and around the ears and all they wanted was to go home."

This kind of inhuman treatment has been meted out to the Indian workers in Kuwait. They simply wanted to come home after the expiry of the contract. This is not the first incident. The report says:

> "This incident follows another just a fortnight ago, when 1,000 workers struck work at a refinery because of poor living conditions and inadequate food. In both cases prompt and active intervention by the Indian Embassy has moved the cases in favour of the workers."

If the Indian Embassy had not intervened they would have been beaten up. There are a number of workers and there are female workers who are doing household

[Sh. Tindivanam G. Venkatraman]

work. They are simply beaten up. They are not only made to work 24 hours but they are physically assaulted and raped. A case was reported a month ago. People wanted to come back but they are not able to get back home. They go to the embassy and it is there in the report that the embassy is looking like an asylum. All the people like female workers who are beaten up are there. A complaint is lodged against these workers and they are made to stay in the police station for several days and after that they are made to go to the embassy for asylum and then they are reported.

Madam, one thing that we must do is that these embassies should be directed to blacklist all these firms; otherwise, this kind of cruelty will go on. Instead of taking firm action against these firms, the Labour Ministry is asking these workers to come back to dispose of the cases. The Ministry is not actually dealing firmly with these cases. Unless it deals firmly with these cases, this kind of harassment of Indian workers will continue. Therefore, Madam, the Labour Ministry should take appropriate steps to see to it that the Indian workers are not harassed and they must have good living conditions in the country where they go to eke out their livelihood.

SHRI S. MUTHU MANI (Tamil Nadu): Madam, I associate myself with what the hon. Member has said. (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Shri Viduthalai Virumbi.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI (Tamil Nadu): Madam Deputy Chairman, my colleague has explained the thing. So, I would be brief. Madam, regarding this issue, when the contract was made they gave an assurance to give 45 Kuwaiti dinars per month to these workers. But for the last two years they have been given only 25 dinars per month. That is the first point. The second point is that when the contract was over the employers insisted that the workers should pay their return charges and they also demanded 200 Kuwaiti dinars from the workers contrary to the contract. The third point is that they have been asked to vacate their places without any previous intimation. So, they approached the Indian Embassy. The Embassy gave them assurance that they would get formal certificates to go back to their country. Then the workers again gave representation stating that they would be manhandled. The Embassy again assured them that they could go back to their country. Unfortunately, on August 17 they were arrested and manhandled and subjected to untold miseries. Madam, the most miserable part of it is, we got this information from the Press, not from the Government. Therefore, I demand, through you, that the External Affairs Minister should make a statement giving full details regarding this incident. I also expect an assurance from the Government that this incident will not be repeated again. Madam, most of the workers who were assaulted, come from Tamil Nadu. They may be from any State. Madam, many people are going to the Gulf countries because of large-scale unemployment prevailing in the country. I request that the External Affairs Minister should make a statement giving full details about it. The Government must give an assurance that it will not be repeated again with any Indian anywhere in the world. I also expect some reaction from the External Affairs Minister.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The external Minister is present here. Mr. Minister, he has mentioned something about workers in Kuwait. You take care of it.

SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: What is his reaction?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He cannot give his reaction. I don't expect reactions. I can only ask them to listen to it. Reaction part is a different thing. It is even difficult for me to bring it to their notice. (*Interruptions*). He cannot react immediately. Let him find out. It is not something which is happening in the next room. It is something which has happened in some other country. He will find out the actual situation. Let him take care of them. Our idea is to see that workers should be all right, not for him to react in the House. I think that is your idea. Shri Ram Ratan Ram. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY (Orissa): Madam, please give me one minute. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI T. A. MOHAMMED SAQHY (Tamil Nadu): Madam, they were manhandled..... (*Interruptions*)..... because they come from South India. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is not a question of south or north. Let us not divide it. There is no question of south or north. (*Interruptions*). Just a minute. If it was a question of north or south then why did we permit it? The question is of the Indian people, not of north or south.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): Madam, we are keeping ourselves abreast of whatever developments have taken place on this front. Our Ambassador in Kuwait is here for consultations. We will leave no stone unturned to see that no Indian citizen abroad faces any inconvenience or is harassed in any way. We are taking steps to ensure that it does not happen again.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: All Indians, right. We don't want to divide them.

SHRI SARDA MOHANTY: Please give me one minute. Madam, these things are being done because of one clause in the Immigration Act, 1983. Unless we amend the Immigration Act, we cannot solve this problem. Sections 21 and 27 of the Immigration Act must be amended.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Minister, he has raised this issue in the House earlier also. It is regarding amending or looking into the Immigration Act. He wants that the Immigration Act should be amended or strengthened. He referred to it in his previous deliberations also. Please look into it also.

Irregular Appointments in Northern Railway

श्री राम रतन राम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : मेडम, मैं आपका ध्यान नार्दन रेलवे में हो रही अनियमित भर्तियों की ओर आकर्षित करना चाहता हूं। डिप्टी कंट्रोलर आफ स्टोर्स, रेलवे, आलमबाग, लखनऊ में करीब 300 खलासियों की वैकेंसीज है और यह कहा जाता है कि रेलवे के आदेश से अभी कोई नई नियुक्ति नहीं होगी। लेकिन रेलवे के कतिपय अधिकारी और मिनिस्टरों के स्टाफ कांस्पिरेसी करके वहां पर अपनी तरफ से कर्मचारियों को नियुक्त करके भेज रहे हैं। अपाएंटेड अथोरिटी के पास इसमें रिजर्वेशन का जरा भी ध्यान नहीं रखा जा रहा है। वे अपने रिश्तेदारों, नातेदारों की और अन्य लोगों से रुपये लेकर भर्ती करते हैं। यह बिल्कुल अनियमित है। इन 300 वेकेन्सीज को अधिकारियों की एक कमेटी नियुक्त करके भरी जानी चाहिए थी वह कमेटी भी नियुक्त नहीं की गई। एम्प्लायमेंट एक्सचेंज से नाम मांगने चाहिए थे वह भी नहीं मांगे गये, बाहर से एडवर्टीजमेंट निकालकर नाम मांगने चाहिए थे वह भी नहीं मांगे गये। बल्कि रेलवे बोर्ड के स्टाफ, वहां के अधिकारी, रेल मंत्रालय के अधिकारी, वहां के स्टाफ नाम भेज रहे हैं अपने रिश्तेदारों के। जो बस्ती में रहते हैं वे अपनी बस्ती के लोगों के नाम भेज रहे हैं। जो फरूखाबाद के रहने वाले हैं वे वहां के लोगों के नाम भेज रहे हैं। इस प्रकार से यह अनियमितता हो रही है। इसमें अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के लोगों का जरा भी ध्यान नहीं रखा जा रहा है। कालान्तर में जब ये लोग कुछ टाइम काम करने के बाद अपना हक नियमित करने के लिए साबित करेंगे तो इनको नियमित कर दिया जायेगा और हमारे अनुसूचित जाति/जनजाति के लोगों का हक मारा जायेगा। मैं इस अनियमितता की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करता हूं और साथ ही यह मांग भी करता हूं कि